

## House Resolution No. 1625

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State organizations which admirably enhance the quality of life in local communities and neighborhoods through the excellence of their achievements in the area of charitable assistance to those in need; and

**Whereas**, Pacific Lodge #86 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was founded as the first fraternal order in Washington, Missouri, on April 22, 1855, by workers with the Pacific Railroad; and

**Whereas**, on the eve of the One Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary of its establishment, Pacific Lodge #86 can look back on a vibrant history that includes moving in 2004 into the first-ever lodge building owned by the organization, ownership and maintenance of the Wildey Cemetery since 1865, an annual “Tombstone Tour” at Halloween that enjoys excellent turnout in the evening, and financial support of the Arthritis Foundation, Visual Research Foundation, Education Foundation, and United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth; and

**Whereas**, the Pacific Lodge #86 motto, “Friendship, Love, and Truth”, is fully supported by a membership which has doubled during the past two years; and

**Whereas**, Pacific Lodge #86 derives its roots from seventeenth century England where those individuals who banded together for the purpose of giving aid to persons in need and of pursuing projects for the benefit of all humanity were known as “odd fellows”; and

**Whereas**, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was founded on the North American continent in Baltimore, Maryland, on April 26, 1819; and

**Whereas**, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows became the first national fraternity to include women when it adopted the Rebekah Degree on September 20, 1851, based on teachings found in the Bible and the writings of the Honorable Schuyler Colfax, who would go on to serve as vice president of the United States from 1868 to 1873; and

**Whereas**, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and its related Rebekahs were the first fraternal organizations to establish homes for senior members and orphaned children:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the long, productive, and philanthropic history of Pacific Lodge #86 of the International Order of Odd Fellows and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body’s most heartfelt congratulations as they celebrate the One Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary of their organization’s founding; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to Pacific Lodge #86 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Washington, Missouri.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Kevin Threlkeld  
District No. 109

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 1625, adopted March 30, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rod Jetton, Speaker